

What They Do

Quality Control Analysts are responsible for inspecting raw materials and finished products to make sure they meet required levels of quality. They are responsible for gathering data for documentation of testing methods and for interpreting results. They must keep excellent records of the results of their inspections. Quality Control Analysts write reports and communicate their findings to relevant personnel.

Quality Control Analysts participate in a wide variety of quality tests at each phase of the manufacturing process. Some analysts inspect raw materials and equipment parts received from suppliers. Others test goods during the manufacturing process and retest the completed products. Analysts often contribute the expertise to confirm that manufacturing materials and components meet established guidelines. As part of their job duties, Quality Control Analysts also calibrate and maintain lab test equipment, develop testing methods, and revise and update operating procedures, as necessary.

One subspecialty is the Quality Control Biochemistry Technician. These workers analyze raw materials and manufactured goods held in storage to determine shelf-life and to make sure that the products have not deteriorated over time.

*Quality Control Analysts in the biotech industry shares characteristics of Industrial Engineering Technicians. Detailed descriptions of these occupations may be found in the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) at online.onetcenter.org.*

Important skills, knowledge, and abilities include:

- ▶ Production and Processing – Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.
- ▶ Engineering and Technology – Knowledge of the practical application of engineering science and technology. This includes applying principles, techniques, procedures, and equipment to the design and production of various goods and services.
- ▶ Mathematics – Using mathematics to solve problems.
- ▶ Quality Control Analysis – Conducting tests and inspections of products, services, or processes to evaluate quality or performance.
- ▶ Science – Using scientific rules and methods to solve problems.
- ▶ Information Ordering – The ability to arrange things or actions in a certain order or pattern according to a specific rule or set of rules (e.g., patterns of numbers, letters, words, pictures, mathematical operations).

Quality Control Analysts

Biotechnology Careers

Training/Requirements

- ▶ Bachelor or master's degree in biological sciences or another scientific discipline.
- ▶ Possess up to two to five years of experience preferably in a research environment in chemistry or biochemistry.

What's the California Job Outlook?

While the Bureau of Labor Statistics does not collect data on Quality Control Analysts, the occupation listed below is found in the biotechnology industry and has similar duties. The California outlook and wages figures are drawn from all industries and represent an occupation comparable to Quality Control Analysts.

Standard Occupational Classification	Estimated Number of Workers 2002	Estimated Number of Workers 2012	Average Annual Openings	2005 Wage Range (per hour)
Industrial Engineering Technicians				
17-3026	6,000	6,900	220	\$18.48 to \$29.77

These figures do not include self-employment.

Average annual openings include new jobs plus openings due to separations.

Source: www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov, Employment Projections by Occupation and OES Employment & Wages by Occupation, Labor Market Information Division, Employment Development Department.

Additional Sources of Information

National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS)
(734) 995-0300
www.ncms.org

Occupational Information Network (O*NET)
<http://online.onetcenter.org>